

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA  
8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH – 6:30 P.M.**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>April 2015- APRIL 2016</b>	
		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Edna Elijah, <b>Chair</b>	P	3	0
Austin Scott, <b>Vice, Chair</b>	P	3	0
Gregory T. Boardman	A	2	1
Towana Bonaparte	P	3	0
Dr. Ciara L. Bostick	P	2	1
Maureen S. Dinnen	A	1	2
W. Jason Dunne	A	0	3
Jennifer Gordon	P	1	0
Rochelle Horowitz	P	1	2
Deniece Jones	P	2	1
Jennifer L. Kimmey	P	2	1
Sam L. Mitchell	A	1	1
Dr. Maureen Persi	A	2	1
Jonathan Schwartz	A	1	1
Betty Shelley	P	1	0
M. Elaine Wilson	A	1	2

**Appointed Members to the Board: 16**  
**Needed to constitute a quorum: 9**

**Staff**

Junia Robinson, staff liaison  
Charles Webster, BCPS liaison  
Betty Shelley, Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association

**I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair, Edna Elijah**

**II. Attendance by Roll Call – Chair, Edna Elijah**

- **New Board Member Introductions:** Betty Shelley and Jennifer Gordon

**Determination of quorum**

As of this date, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 there are 16 appointed members to the board, which means 9 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a quorum.

### **III. Approve minutes (April 16th)**

**Motion** by Mr. Austin Scott, seconded by Ms. Towana Bonaparte, that the said minutes for Thursday, April 16th, 2015 be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### **IV. Guest Introductions: Jorg Hruschka, Chief Service Officer Neighbor Volunteer Office**

Chair Elijah introduced Mr. Jorge Hruschka to the board. Mr. Hruschka greeted the board and shared a new project in the Neighbor Volunteer Office called: Show Up, Step Up and Stand out Inter-Generational Youth Leadership program. He shared the program is for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade high school students in a classroom setting providing them leadership skills.

Mr. Hruschka shared the new class begins October 10<sup>th</sup> and they are looking for students who would like to participate. He provided his contact information for anyone who is interested in the program. Mr. Hruschka says they are looking for mentors but especially students to participate in the program.

**Guest Introductions:** Nadine LeBlanc, Principal, Mavericks high  
Heather Greene, Academic Advisor, Mavericks high  
Kevin James, Admission Specialist, Mavericks high  
Sandra Monroe, Admissions and Family Coordinator,  
Mavericks High

Chair Elijah welcomed and introduced Ms. Nadine LeBlanc and her Staff to the Education Advisory Board meeting. Ms. LeBlanc greeted the board then asked each one of her Staff members present to introduce themselves.

Ms. LeBlanc and her Staff talked about the negative perception of the school and the students. A few students attended the meeting and gave positive experiences about the school. Chair Elijah thanked them for their presentation and welcomed them back at any time for an update and progress of the school. Ms. LeBlanc welcomed board members to visit the school and volunteer.

### **V. Current business**

**A. BCPS updates- Charles Webster**

Mr. Webster began his brief updates by announcing that there will be town hall meetings at Stranahan and Northeast high school and there will also be “conversations with the district” meetings. He shared at Northeast high the meeting is scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup>, Stranahan is October 15<sup>th</sup> and the “conversation with the district” meeting is scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup> at Fort Lauderdale high school. Mr. Webster says these meetings are different; the town hall meetings will focus solely on the facility. The “conversation with the district” meetings are hosted by the BCPS staff and he explained “we take the questioner up on a stage with the Superintendent and School board member and they have conversations”. Mr. Webster said that the meetings will be held at 6 or 6:30pm. We will confirm with his office and get back to the board through Junia, staff liaison.

Mr. Webster said the Coalition of Advisory Board meeting that was held on Thursday, September 03<sup>rd</sup> at South Plantation high school was very successful.

**B. Board discussions/member updates**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Jennifer Kimmey, seconded by Ms. Betty Shelley that the board cancel the October 15<sup>th</sup>, EAB meeting to attend the Stranahan event.

In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Elijah reminded the board that the Stranahan town hall meeting will take place at 6:30PM on Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. The board will reconvene on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Dr. Ciara Bostick suggested inviting the Principal from New River Middle school to talk about their marine biology program. Ms. Robinson, staff liaison said she will follow-up with Mr. Boardman, who is absent today because he has a working relationship with the staff and Principal at New River and can invite them to a meeting.

Mr. Austin Scott said that he has a friend who is an expert in the child protective services for the County and can give the board an update on the topic. He said his name is John Wright, MD and can possibly give a presentation in a future meeting.

Ms. Rochelle Horowitz shared an article she read in the New York Times back in May, 2015. She shared the gentleman in the article is Harris Rosen from Orlando and Ms. Horowitz said she was so moved after reading the article. She said she contacted the newspaper to inquire about Mr. Rosen and get his contact information. Ms. Horowitz shared she was able to speak to Mr. Rosen at length about his community project. She shared that Mr. Rosen is a wealthy hotelier in Orlando and has taken a community in Orlando called Tangelo park. In her conversation with Mr. Rosen, she explained that his mission is to save children by adopting this community. In doing so, he has set up day care centers for 2, 3 and 4 year old children for which he pays and the students

attend public schools and he funds a scholarship for each one of the college graduates who wants to attend.

Ms. Horowitz suggested that the board members read the article and perhaps the board can come up with some similar ideas and projects.

Chair Elijah thanked Ms. Horowitz for sharing with the board.

Mr. Austin Scott suggested that the Board has future meetings at other locations. Ms. Robinson responded that the meeting locations need to be recorded. She can discuss with the City attorney's office and follow up.

Ms. Towana Bonaparte shared her experience at the Coalition of Advisory Board meetings. She asked the board "other than meeting every month, what else does the board do"? Ms. Bonaparte said she spoke to other coalition members from other municipalities and they are a lot more active. Mr. Austin Scott and several other board members talked about issues and projects the board addressed in the past.

**C. City Staff update**

Junia Robinson, staff liaison shared that the State of the City Address hosted was very successful and she thanked everyone who was able to attend.

She reminded the board that the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will be cancelled to attend the Stranahan town hall meeting.

**D. Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association – Ms. Betty Shelley**

Ms. Betty shared that she represents the Council of Civic Association which is a combination of all the civic associations in the City. She says there are 42 associations citywide.

**Next Meeting and Closing**

The next meeting is scheduled for, Thursday, November 19th, 2015,

City hall, 8<sup>th</sup> floor conference room